



*Office of the United States Attorney
District of Arizona*

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FORMER ARIZ. CORRECTIONS OFFICER SENTENCED TO PRISON FOR DRUG AND OTHER CHARGES

TUCSON, Ariz.- Francisco Javier Sallard-Reyes, 30, of Mexico and formerly of McNeal Ariz., was sentenced here today by U.S. District Judge Cindy K. Jorgenson to 19 months in prison for attempting to smuggle almost 22 pounds of marijuana into the U.S. Prior to his arrest, Sallard-Reyes had legal status in the U.S. as a Lawful Permanent Resident (LPR) and had been employed as a Corrections Officer by the Arizona Department of Corrections, assigned to the Arizona State Prison in Douglas, Ariz.

U.S. Attorney Paul K. Charlton stated, "This case represents yet another public official who has fallen prey to public corruption. This is a priority for us and we will continue to focus on these cases."

"We're committed to ensuring that those who serve in the public trust are held to the highest standards," said Roberto G. Medina, special agent-in-charge of the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement's office of investigation in Arizona. "We will not condone or tolerate such conduct on the part of individuals who are sworn to uphold the law."

Sallard-Reyes attempted to smuggle 21.9 lbs. of marijuana into the U.S. in the spare tire of his car through the Naco, Ariz. Port of Entry in December 2004 and was apprehended by officials from U.S. Customs and Border Protection. He confessed, stating he was to be paid \$1500 to transport the marijuana from Naco, Ariz. to Tucson. His LPR status was revoked at the time of his arrest. He was then deported to Mexico by an Immigration Judge on December 30, 2004.

After he was indicted by a federal grand jury in January 2005 and failed to show up for his arraignment, a warrant was issued for his arrest. On November 5, 2005, he was found in the U.S. illegally and was arrested by ICE. The charge of Illegal Re-Entry After Deportation was added to the original indictment by a federal grand jury in January 2006. Sallard-Reyes pleaded guilty in February 2006 to a three-count indictment.

The investigation in this case was conducted by U.S. Customs and Border Protection and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. The prosecution was handled by George Ferko, Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona, Tucson, Ariz.

CASE NUMBER: CR-05-026-TUC-CKJ(CRP)

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